

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT
APRIL 2003

This report summarizes the status of selected Planning Division activities during the last 30 days.

1. New Town DRB Cases. The New Town Design Review Board reviewed two cases in March. They approved the architectural concept plan for the William E. Wood building and will henceforth require a sample field panel for all projects. The DRB also approved the Prudential-McCardle Realty building, and discussed how to review site plan amendments beginning with the SunTrust building site plan amendment.
2. Comprehensive Plan Update. The second round of Community Conversations took place on March 6 at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church and March 10 at Lafayette High School. The results from the second round have been validated by the CPT and forwarded to the SC. All citizen comments are available on the County's website. In March, the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee completed its review of the Transportation and Community Character sections, with the review of the Housing section beginning on March 31. The draft text of the first four sections of the Comprehensive Plan was distributed to the Steering Committee on March 17. The Steering Committee remains on schedule to deliver the full Comprehensive Plan to the Planning Commission in July 2003.
3. CMAQ and RSTP Allocations. HRPDC has begun the process to allocate CMAQ and RSTP transportation funds for FY2004, FY2005 and FY2006. Project proposals are due June 1st, 2003. The County has been successful in receiving these funds in the past for Route 199, Route 199 and Route 31 Intersection, Route 60 relocation and bikeways.
4. Capital Improvements Program. The Planning Commission recommendations were forwarded to the Board of Supervisors in a reading file on March 25th, 2003.
5. PDR Program Status. At its March 25, 2003 meeting the Board of Supervisors authorized the purchase of three parcels under the Purchase of Development Rights program. These included two adjoining parcels at 2511 and 2611 Forge Road totaling 123 acres most of which is in active cropland, and an 18.9 acre parcel at 9038 Diascund Road containing farmland, orchards, timberland and a residence.
6. Subdivision and Zoning Fee Changes. The Board of Supervisors approved a resolution at its March 11, 2003 meeting initiating consideration of changes to fees for subdivisions, rezoning, special use permits, site plans, sign permits, appeals to the BZA and administrative variances. These changes are advertised for public hearing at the April 7, Planning Commission meeting.
7. Other Board Action. At its March 11th meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved Case No. SUP-25-03, Ready Mixed Concrete Expansion, Case No. ZO-1-03, Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Eight Family Dwellings, and Case No. SUP-1-03/MP-1-03, Williamsburg Plantation, Section 10. At its March 25th meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved Case No. SUP-3-03, JCSA Route 5 Water Main Extension Amendment.
8. Upcoming Cases. There are no new cases that are tentatively scheduled for the May 5, 2003, Planning Commission meeting.

O. Marvin Sowers, Jr.